



Marlborough Public Schools

School Committee
District Education Center
25 Union Street, Marlborough, MA 01752
(508) 460-3509

Call to Order

October 10, 2023

1. Chairman Vigeant called the regular meeting of the Marlborough School Committee to order at 7:30 p.m. at 17 Washington Street, Marlborough, MA. Members present included Michelle Bodin-Hettinger, Daniel Caruso, Earl Geary, Katherine Hennessy, Heidi Matthews, and Denise Ryan. Also present were Superintendent Mary Murphy, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Robert Skaza, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Equity, Jody O'Brien, and Director of Finance and Operations, Tom Lafleur. MEA Representative Elton Thomas and Student Advisory Representative Risha Khanderia were also present.

This meeting is being recorded by local cable, WMCT-TV, and is available for review.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Vigeant led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Presentation**

- A. **MHS Advisory Committee**

The sophomore class representative, Atul Modur, discussed the continuation of the accelerated math program into high school. Atul went into depth about the impact of this program, and senior class representative, Risha Khanderia, chimed in with her perspective as well.

The junior class representative, Katalina Cartes Guzman, brought up the need for a driver's education program at MHS. Katalina mentioned the various benefits this program for high school students.

The freshman class representative, Taylor Cronis, spoke about freshman orientation. She mentioned that only about 70 students attended this event. Taylor offered suggestions for strengthening the orientation moving forward.

The other freshmen class representative, Tayla Stempson, highlighted the various fall sports. She discussed some of the issues with Arbiter Live, the platform used for posting team schedules and competition results.

4. **Committee Discussion/Directives:** None.

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5. Communications: None.

6. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Murphy shared the updated district enrollment data as of October 6, 2023, which is outlined in her report. The district does not have the capacity to add additional classrooms in the elementary schools, which have growing enrollment numbers.

Superintendent Murphy has included a draft of her goals for the committee's review and comments. These goals will be voted on at the following scheduled meeting.

A. Assistant Superintendent of Student Services & Equity Report

Mrs. O'Brien, the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Equity, outlined the October 1st MPS data report that will be shared to DESE. This data is included in her report. Mrs. O'Brien highlighted some key findings over the past four years.

7. Acceptance of Minutes:

A. Minutes of the September 26, 2023 School Committee Meeting

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve these minutes.

Motion passed 7-0-0.

8. Public Comment: None.

It should be noted that members of the public may provide comment via email before the meeting to superintendent@mps-edu.org. Public comment is a time for your comments to be heard by the committee; it is not a question-and-answer session.

9. Action Items/Reports

A. New England Innovation Academy

Mrs. Murphy shared that New England Innovation Academy is seeking to receive a letter of final approval for their school so they can be recognized by the MA DESE.

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to accept New England Innovation Academy as a private school in Marlborough.

Motion passed 7-0-0.

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B. Acceptance of Donations and Gifts

Marie Esther Health Center. MPS received \$250.00 from the Marie Esther Health Center.

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve this donation.

Motion passed 7-0-0.

United Brethren of Free Masons. The Richer School Connections Program received \$300.00 from the United Brethren of Free Masons.

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve this donation.

Motion passed 7-0-0.

O'Connor Studios. Richer School received \$1,135.98 from O'Connor Studios.

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to approve this donation.

Motion passed 7-0-0.

10. Reports of School Committee Sub-Committees: None.

11. Members' Forum:

Mrs. Matthews has reviewed and signed the warrant.

12. Adjournment:

Motion made by Mrs. Matthews, seconded by Chairman Vigeant to adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

Motion passed 7-0-0.



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Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Matthews
Secretary, Marlborough School Committee

HM/jm

Approved 11/14/2023

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